COPY

Released For Use Not Earlier Than the Afternoon of February 17, 1931.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
WASHINGTON

AMATEURS REPORTED INTERFERING WITH GENERAL RADIO COMMUNICATION SERVICES

Failure of a large number of amateur radio operators to adhere to the wave band allocated for this purpose is causing serious interference with commercial and government radio communication services and may possibly interfere with international communications in foreign countries, according to W. D. Terrell, Radio Director, Department of Commerce.

When it is considered that there are 18,994 licensed amateur radio transmitting stations in the United States, it can be readily seen that off frequency operation of many such stations offers a serious hazard to the efficient maintenance of radio communication services generally, Mr. Terrell stated.

It is incumbent upon amateurs as it is upon all other stations to operate according to the terms of their licenses and the provisions of the law and Commerce Department supervisors of radio throughout the United States have been instructed to watch the operation of amateur stations more closely.

Mr. Terrell pointed out that while amateurs operating off frequency stations subject themselves to a legal penalty, they may also find it necessary to meet more exacting operating regulations.

He stated that the high regard in which amateurs are held was responsible for their official recognition at the last International Radiotelegraph Conference and unless they maintain their reputation as a self-regulating body certain of the privileges which they now enjoy may possibly be restricted at the forthcoming International Radiotelegraph Conference to be held in Madrid in 1932.

-oOo-